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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3828
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

4 March 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Contact with AECASSOWARY/15 on 2 March 1960

The undersigned met with Subject in his home between 0930 and 1030 hours. The following was discussed.

1. EXCHANGE STUDENT CANDIDATES

a. PRYBYLA, Walter D. Jr., 421 Tennyson Avenue, Syracuse 4, New York, New York. Telephone: Hunter 8-8322. D.O.B. 29 September 1933 in Syracuse, New York; graduate student at Maxwell School, Syracuse University, working on his Ph.D. He has an M.A. in Soviet and East European Studies from Notre Dame. He is single.

A/15 stated he felt PRYBYLA would be a good candidate for the exchange student program in the USSR and he has talked to him about it. PRYBYLA expressed interest in the program. Although it is past the time limit for making applications, A/15 told PRYBYLA to file his application now so that if he doesn't get in for this semester he may make the next one. A/15 will keep us informed. In the meantime, appropriate name checks will be made on PRYBYLA.

b. OLYNYK, Stephen D. [] []

A/15 stated that when OLYNYK's application was being processed, Professor POSONY (sic) of Georgetown, one of the five character references listed by OLYNYK, raised an objection to his going to the USSR. He is a Hungarian refugee and his reasoning was that the political situation could change and OLYNYK might find himself in danger. OLYNYK told him he had carefully considered his application and that he felt he would be in no danger. POSONY then signed off but noted his reservations on the application. According to POSONY, he had discussed OLYNYK's application with Dr. Lev DOBRIANSKY, who agreed with his (POSONY's) reservations. A/15 stated that Dr. DOBRIANSKY and other Ukrainians might also be against OLYNYK's going as an exchange student because they might suspect him of being a bit leftist since his recent trip to the USSR.

Although OLYNYK has spoken openly about his trip to the USSR, he has not been mentioning the fact that he contacted his parents while in the Ukraine. Word recently got around about it in his parent's village, however, because his parents mentioned it to their parish priest, a close friend of the family. The priest passed it on in a letter to friends in Canada. The friends in turn inquired about it in their letters to relatives in the village of OLYNYK's parents, and now everyone seems to know, including probably the authorities.

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It is possible that the RIS will approach OLYNYK if he goes in as an exchange student. If his application is accepted, then, we must consider this possibility in his briefing.

2. During the recent visit of Soviet writers to the Library of Congress, a group of employees of the Slavonic Department had opportunity to talk to them. The employees of Ukrainian extraction asked Oles HONCHAR (Aleksandr Terentevich GONCHAR, Ukrainian writer, member of the CP since 1946) why the Soviets haven't mailed Ukrainian-language books to the library, specifically the Soviet Ukrainian Encyclopedia. HONCHAR replied that this was outside his jurisdiction but that he would talk to BAZHAN about it (Mykola Platonovich BAZHAN, Ukrainian poet, full member Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences, Chairman UkSSR Union of Soviet writers, presidium member and secretary of the USSR Union of Soviet Writers and member of CP since 1940.).

3. A/15 wanted to know what commo arrangements could be set up for him to keep in touch with his operation¹ contacts. The question was not finally resolved, but a mail drop will probably be used as the basic device. A/15 will also need a safe at home, since he will probably be maintaining his records here rather than in New York. A/15 also needs a typewriter for his operational correspondence and reporting. We shall try to obtain one for him on a loan basis.

4. A/15 stated that he told Paul DANYLYUK he would be interested in speaking with DANYLYUK's mother, who recently arrived from the Ukraine. ~~and~~ Paul told him as soon as they get settled a bit more in their home he would arrange for Subject to come over and talk with her. We told Subject we would submit some questions for him to ask Mrs. DANYLYUK.

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